

Kuwait

Pre-Deployment Challenge How was it addressed?

1. Finding time to take required pre-deployment courses.
 - a. Some of the courses were taken after normal duty hours.
2. Getting home responsibilities taken care of for the duration.
 - a. Made a checklist and used free time to get things done.
3. Inconsistent training information from ASC, UDC website and AMC's UDC liaison email received when you are confirmed for deployment. UDC states you do not need to send training certificates. You DO need to take them with you. UDC needs to see a copy of your Pro-File upon arrival in theater.
 - a. Supply copies to your office admin.
4. Schedule physical early
 - a. If employee is medically disqualified, they still must process their orders then cancel them. This will allow for reimbursement for the tests ordered.
5. Recommend that career program do everything possible not to send anyone through CRC. It was not tough to go through, but so much time was wasted standing around.

Deployment Challenge How was it addressed?

1. Getting computer access.
 - a. Resolved it by working with S-6 to get accounts set up.
2. Gathering, compiling and presenting data reports and flow charts to command within time constraints.
 - a. Managing resources, planning ahead, and consulting key component cells of the Command Ops.
3. Transition time was short. The position requires that you know who to go to for everything. I did not have time to learn it all. I did not fully understand the responsibilities. There was no desk procedure for the job, I am working in that.
4. I was expected to know the job before I came. People here do not realize that most of us that will come here have never done anything like this. It is a big learning curve. I address this issue by asking questions.
5. Not having overlap with the individual I was replacing
 - a. Was able to get over that hurdle by listening and learning through doing
6. Being unfamiliar with the new Army structure

Will experience change the way current job is performed?

1. Having a better understanding of ammo at the retail level will allow me to adapt some of our wholesale operations to better fit the warfighter requirements.

2. I can use my experience/knowledge to teach how ammunition doctrinally should be managed on the battlefield,

Best preparation for Logistics in Theater

1. Having previous deployments
2. Multiple moves as a QASAS and exposure to working with the soldiers early in my career.
3. Talking to others who have done this job before and those who have been posted here.

Advice for Explosives Safety Specialist who are deploying

1. ES needs to enter early in the deployment process. This would save millions of dollars. ES can assist in the design/construction of ammo storage areas, avoid QD violations and ensures CoRAs are generated so leadership is aware of the hazards and risks when minimum QD requirements cannot be met.
2. Work with those who have experience.
3. Understand the purpose of your duties and what is expected.

Advice

1. Do as much paperwork as possible ahead of time.
2. Stay in close contact with the guy on the ground from the day you get your notice to deploy. Ask to have weekly reports sent to you at home station.
3. Be open minded and listen
4. Support everyone you can.
5. Be ready for a high visible position in a high command workplace. Be ready for long days with plenty of work and long days without enough work to keep you busy. Those are the days to get with the other logisticians and learn what they do.
6. Be familiar with policies and SOP prior to deployment

Greatest Achievement What led to that success?

1. Developing a theater policy on demil of serviceable excess stocks.
2. Teaching a soldier about explosives safety and ammunition management. Teaching QASAS and AM about ammo logistics.
3. Helping to complete the mission
4. Getting some of the FY11 Surveillance Samples out of Iraq and Afghanistan to Kuwait and on the vessel
5. Determine disposition instructions for 150-250 ACRs
6. Determine disposition of serviceable ammunition from the "Do Not Return List"
7. Reinstated magazine inspection program

Information to Share

1. Take advantage of the learning experience but don't forget who you are there to support.
2. These are your customers and you need to understand what it is they need and determine how best to support them. Don't bite off more than you can chew. Tackle the most critical issues first. If you do not get to it all, leave a good continuity book for your successor.
3. When you present a problem, submit a recommendation for a resolution
4. The seasoned QASAS need to be a mentor to the inexperienced
5. Be proactive
6. Be familiar with the SB 742-1, SOPs and the MHP
7. We see a lot of missiles in an unserviceable condition code with no defects or with minor container defects or requiring dessicant